

NGA Center for Best Practices Grant Award
Interoperability: Focus on Governance / Policy Academy

Overview

The State of Arizona has been selected as one of six states to participate in the NGA Center for Best Practices *Interoperability: Focus on Governance* Policy Academy. GITA applied for this grant on October 28, 2008 and awards were announced on November 20, 2008.

The goal of the grant is to improve state interoperability governance structures that oversee statewide interoperability planning and implementation. The grant provides:

- \$50,000 to cover travel, facilities and facilitation
- Two NGA Policy Academy meetings – representatives to attend
- Optional site visits
- Customized Technical Assistance

State Team = PSCC Governance Committee led by PSIC staff. Representatives to attend two Academies are to be determined with at least 2 PSIC staff and 2 other Committee members.

Objectives/Deliverables

The Public Safety Communications Advisory Commission (PSCC) Governance subcommittee will work with consultants, stakeholders, support staff, NGA Academy peers and NGA Academy faculty to develop an operational governance structure and specific plans for implementation that includes the following:

- Create an operational governance model for Arizona, representative of all of the relevant disciplines and regions of the State, to guide the creation and implementation of a permanent governance body.
- Develop a governance body charter and bylaws stating the mission, goals and objectives, and roles and responsibilities for governing interoperable communications in Arizona.
- Create a template multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary agreement (i.e. MOU) which will address decision-making, resource sharing, and other activities integral to interoperable communications.
- Develop standard operating procedures for interoperable communications in Arizona.
- Create performance measures to support requests for funding, and to enable assessment of gaps in interoperability.

NGA Center for Best Practices Grant Award
Interoperability: Focus on Governance / Policy Academy
High Level Timetable

- November 2008 – Award Announced; Planning Commences.
- *December 2008* – Determine Representatives to attend Policy Academy in January. Planning Continues.
- *January 2009* – Early - Participate in the NGA Policy Academy Meeting.
- *January/February 2009* - Full Committee meeting.
- *March 2009* – Full Committee meeting.
- *April 2009* – A mid-project progress report submitted to PSCC and NGA.
- *May 2009* – Full Committee meeting.
- *Summer 2009* – Representatives participate in the Second NGA Policy Academy Meeting (location to be determined).
- *July 2009* – Final drafts of deliverables (i.e., governance model, charter and by-laws, statewide MOU, standard operating procedures and performance measures) reviewed and approved by the Governance Committee, and presented to the PSCC for endorsement.
- *August 31, 2009* – A final report submitted.

Specific Performance Measures

NGA will evaluate our progress based on the following performance measures:

- Representation and participation in the Governance Committee, documented in meeting minutes and project reports, from the following stakeholders:
 - Federal, State, Local, Tribal and Non-governmental agencies
 - All Public Safety disciplines
 - Urban and rural first responders
- Creation of an expanded governance model
- Creation of a charter and by-laws for this governance entity/entities
- Creation of a statewide MOU for interoperability
- Creation of standard operating procedures for interoperable communications in Arizona
- Creation of interoperable communications performance measures